



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
Interim Director of Internal Services

At its meeting held December 9, 2003, the Board took the following action:

47-F

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Yaroslavsky:

“This year, the Malibu Farmers Market entered its fourth season of operation by Cornucopia Farms, a nonprofit organization. Cornucopia dedicates the proceeds from the Market to fund community projects such as teaching and demonstrating resource conservation as well as programs and opportunities for the Malibu community to participate in gardening, composting and sustainable agriculture. On Sundays, the Market offers a variety of locally grown organic home-farmed fruits and vegetables.

“The Market is a valued community resource to the residents of Malibu and the surrounding County area, but is struggling to establish itself as a viable going concern. In its first year of operation, Cornucopia barely broke even. This year, as a result of ongoing operational concerns typical of start-ups, Cornucopia Farms continues to struggle, but is nonetheless committed to establishing a successful Market. In this regard, Cornucopia Farms is participating in a time-tested tradition of farmers markets throughout the County, many of which take years if not decades to establish break-even, then profitable, operations. Because farmers markets are of such value to their communities, they are often supported by their local jurisdictions.

“The County charges a flat \$175.00 per-use permit fee to Cornucopia for the use of the County’s parking lot at the Malibu Civic Center. Since the City of Malibu waives its fees, and since the Market is continuing to establish itself, the County should assist Cornucopia Farms to continue to operate within its still slim revenues.”

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Merritt Holloway addressed the Board.

Therefore, at the suggestion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky and on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Authorized the continued use by Cornucopia Farms of the Malibu Civic Center parking lot for the weekly Sunday Farmers Market;
2. Waived the \$175.00 per use permit fee, excluding the cost of security and liability insurance, from the end of the period of the last Board-approved waiver through December 31, 2003, at which time the imposition of a per-event flat or percentage fee will be reevaluated; and
3. Authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to reimburse any fees paid to date that have now been waived.

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Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel

Letter sent to:
President, Cornucopia Malibu Agricultural Projects